

# McNAMARA WARNS SOVIET ON ADDING TO ICBM DEFENSE

Announcing Limited Nike-X  
Net, He Says It Is Intended  
Only to Deter Peking

ASKS END OF ARMS RACE

Secretary Reviews Nuclear  
Strategy and Makes Plea  
for 'Reasonableness'

Text of the McNamara speech  
is printed on Page 18.

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SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 18.—Defense Secretary Robert McNamara announced today that a limited force of anti-missile missiles would be deployed in the United States to insure against the possibility of a Red Chinese attack in the next decade.

Mr. McNamara said that the "light" Nike-X network would cost \$5-billion and that production would be under way by the end of the year. The missiles are expected to be fully deployed in five years.

The Secretary, addressing a meeting of United Press International editors and publishers at the Fairmont Hotel here, stressed that the defense move was being made with China in mind, not Russia.

"It would be insane for one to conceive conditions under which China might not calculate," he said, "we want to reduce such possibilities to a minimum."

The Secretary warned the Soviet Union, however, that if it decided to expand its limited anti-missile system, this country would respond by increasing its offensive forces in order to maintain its overwhelming retaliatory capacity.

At the same time, he called on Moscow to begin negotiations toward a halt or even a reversal of the arms race. The United States has been pressing for such talks for several months.

"What the world requires in its 22d Year of the Atomic Age is not a new race toward armament," Mr. McNamara said. "What the world re-

quires is a new race toward reasonableness."

The Nike-X system, as conceived by Pentagon planners, will rely on long-range radar to pick up approaching enemy missiles thousands of miles away. Within 400 miles of the target, Spartan missiles will be exploded in their path. If some slip through, fast-accelerating Sprint missiles would be fired at them from within 50 miles of the target.

## No System Impenetrable

Although anti-missile technology has improved substantially, the Secretary said, "it is important to understand that none of the systems at the present or foreseeable state of the art would provide an impenetrable shield over the United States" against an all-out Soviet attack.

Mr. McNamara's speech was described by Administration officials as one of the most important statements on American strategic thinking since the start of the Kennedy-Johnson Administrations.

## More Arms Than Necessary

In a wide-ranging review of strategy, Mr. McNamara made these other points:

①The United States and Russia already possess more I.C.B.M.'s than either requires to deter nuclear war. Mr. McNamara ascribed this to mutual distrust and unwillingness to let the other nation so upset the balance of power that a first strike could be successful.

②Both nations would benefit from a "properly safe-guarded agreement first to limit, and later to reduce, both our offensive and defensive strategic nuclear forces." This is believed to be the first time that an Administration official has publicly linked the proposed negotiations to an effort not only to limit weapons, but to reduce the size of arsenals as well.

③Current intelligence-gathering capability," presumably reconnaissance satellites, makes it unlikely that either country could secretly build up a first strike force. The implication was that such satellites might conceivably serve to monitor an arms limitation agreement, perhaps removing the necessity for on-site inspection.

## Cornerstone of Strategy

Repeatedly through his address Mr. McNamara stressed that the cornerstone of America's strategic posture in the concept of deterring nuclear war by guaranteeing to knock an aggressor state out of the twentieth Century.

"Our alert forces along carry more than 2,200 weapons, averaging more than one megaton each," Mr. McNamara said. "A mere 400 one-megaton weapons, if delivered on the Soviet Union, would be sufficient to destroy over one-third of her population and one-half of her industry."

The nation's alert forces include Minuteman and Titan missiles in the United States, Polaris missiles on submarines and B-52 bombers based in this country and on Guam. A megaton is an explosive force equal to one million tons of TNT.

Some Administration strategists, notably the Joint Chief of Staff, feel that this is not enough. They want to provide a heavy missile defense against the Soviet Union, arguing that if deterrence fails and war erupts such a system might save the lives of tens of millions of Americans.

Mr. McNamara, presenting the Administration's contrary position, dismissed this argument by insisting that it was a "certainty" that the Russians would react to such a larger

American missile defense by building enough additional I.C.B.M.'s to overcome it.

This point is expected to become a matter of increasing debate within the next few years. Over the weekend certain key member of Congress including Senator John O. Pastore, a Rhode Island Democrat who is chairman of the Joint Atomic Energy Committee, welcomed the news of the limited Nike-X deployment decision as "a starter toward an over-all effective antiballistic missile system" against the Russians.

## Soviet Limitation Cited

Many of those who would proceed with such a system argue that powerful constraints in the Soviet economy, as well as limitations in its production and technological ability, render a fully compensating Russian reaction to a heavy American missile defense unlikely.

Mr. McNamara showed that the Administration was concerned about expected pressures to expand the Nike-X program now that the door is being opened with a China-oriented defense. He devoted a substantial portion of his 25-minute speech to arguing what he regards to be the "futility" of such a course.

The Soviet Union can build so many missiles, he said, that it could exhaust such defenses but not so the Chinese.

Red China, he said, is devoting "very substantial resources" to development of nuclear warheads and missiles to carry them. He said they might have medium range missiles this year, an initial intercontinental missile capability in the early 1970's, and a "modest" intercontinental force by the mid-1970's.

It is understood that by "modest" Mr. McNamara meant from 50 to 150 I.C.B.M.'s in China's hands by about 1975. Even though a first-strike by China would be suicidal, he said, it could happen. Thus a light Nike-X deployment would seem "prudent," he said.

Mr. McNamara made it clear that while the planned Nike X system might have home limited capability against an accidental launching of a Soviet missile, it is not designed to protect against an all-out Soviet attack.

It was apparently because of his deep feeling on what the system could and could not do that Mr. McNamara rather than President Johnson was selected to make the announcement.